

The Fresno Republican

Published every
Friday Afternoon
Short & Shanklin.

For a full and complete
description of the
advantages of this paper,
see the inside of the
cover.

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METHOD VS. NO METHOD.

For fully two weeks past our readers have been treated to one side of such a newspaper strife as occasionally arises in every community where two or more papers are published. Just how this unfortunate controversy started few readers of THE REPUBLICAN or Expositor have stopped to consider. Each paper has its warm supporters, and we believe that both can count among those supporters many good citizens.

We know from personal contact with them that there are hundreds of the best citizens of Fresno, irrespective of nationality, politics or religion, who are heartily in accord with THE REPUBLICAN from the beginning of the fight up to the present time. We are also satisfied that there are a few others who ought to be our outspoken friends, and who will be as soon as they come to understand the matter and see it in its true light. As briefly as possible we will give the origin of this newspaper war, and trace its course up to the present writing.

THE REPUBLICAN published the fact that there was a house of ill-fame, where liquor was being sold by the drink without government, county or city license, in the Phillips building on J street, almost directly across the street from the postoffice. This exposure was written up in detail, and the inside workings of the house thoroughly ventilated, because we did not wish to leave any doubt in the mind of any citizen as to the true character of the house, and at the same time show that the members of the paid police force of the county and city were working at crime in one of the busiest and most public quarters of the city. This exposure was published on Sunday morning, July 14th.

Without attempting to deny the whole or any part of the direct charges made by THE REPUBLICAN, on Monday evening following the Expositor vigorously attacked this journal and our method of waging war against prostitutes quartered in respectable neighborhoods. This was the origin of the bitter fight waged since between the two daily papers in this city.

THE REPUBLICAN continued to fight the houses of prostitution, and, at the same time, defended itself against the vicious attacks of the Expositor. Those who have followed the Expositor's side of the controversy, and have also read THE REPUBLICAN, need not be told that the Expositor, in waging war against us for publishing alleged indecent matter, has used language indecent and foul beyond comparison with anything that has ever appeared in the columns of THE REPUBLICAN.

This paper has stood up fearlessly for better moral conditions, purer social life and a more rigid enforcement of the laws of our state against gambling and against the vagrants who cohabit with women of dissolute habits and abandoned character. The Expositor contented itself at first with simply objecting to the publicity given to the matter by THE REPUBLICAN's method of attacking houses of ill-fame. Upon this point the Expositor bolstered itself up with the ill-timed opinions of various good citizens.

Finding that it was sure to be driven under cover if it attempted to take one position and hold it, the Expositor at once took up a series of unjust, brutal personal attacks upon one of the publishers and the city editor of THE REPUBLICAN. These tactics necessarily brought into prominence a dead beat, formerly employed on this paper.

C. B. Harton, the man referred to, with the encouragement of the Expositor, caused the arrest of J. P. Cogran and J. W. Shanklin upon a charge which did not constitute any crime known to the Penal Code (conspiracy to catch a blackmailer). After repeated efforts to get the prosecution to appear in court and prosecute the case, defendants, by their counsel asked that the case be dismissed, and it was dismissed with the unreversed and unqualified consent of the District Attorney.

Being deluged from the privilege of presenting its side of the case in court, THE REPUBLICAN decided to give it in full in print, and so announced its intention on Sunday morning last. An incident which occurred yesterday on the street has induced us to change our mind for the present. The last chapter, opened by the Expositor was as follows:

Yesterday forenoon J. W. Shanklin stepped out of the Fresno Loan and Savings Bank with a memorandum-book in his hand. He was confronted by L. B. McWhirter, formerly of the Daily Democrat and now doing editorial work on the Expositor. Mr. McWhirter had his right hand in his hip-pocket, and immediately began a tirade of abuse against Mr. Shanklin, adding vile names to his protean display of obscene and profane language.

Taken unawares and without a sign of assistance from any of the bystanders, Mr. Shanklin quietly told the "gentleman" who was acting the part of a bully that it was his desire to meet on equal terms, he, Mr. Shanklin, would not object on the grounds of any real or imaginary difference in weight, for the latter gentleman weighs only 108 pounds in fighting condition, while Mr. McWhirter weighs about 160, and already has an established reputation as a "bad man." Hon. J. S. Dixon finally stepped up and politely escorted Mr. McWhirter out of the street, with his hand still in his pistol pocket.

The grounds for this outrage are beyond the comprehension of THE REPUBLICAN. Mr. McWhirter may possibly have constituted himself a forlorn hope for the Expositor, for it is now generally conceded that that paper is "the under dog in the fight." But that as it may, Mr. McWhirter grossly violated the law that THE REPUBLICAN has been and is trying to uphold.

He is not under arrest for disturbing the peace. If he is the man he should be he will acknowledge his error and rectify it to the best of his ability.

There is an opportunity to advance the "jingo" policy, in connection with the Behring Sea dispute, and the indications are that it will be done. The diplomacy which permits foreigners to usurp rights which belong exclusively to certain citizens of the United States finds no advocates in the present Cabinet.

The Digger Indian is loudly called for to teach the editor of the Expositor how to write respectable English. The editor still insists on making hash out of the mother tongue.

THE SELMA ENTERPRISE IS CONVINCED

that orange culture in the valley would prove profitable, notwithstanding the fact that the foothill belt is preferable. It is a fact that orange-growing in the valley would at least be more profitable than the culture of deciduous fruits. It is also a fact that the trees and fruit would occasionally be injured by frost. However, in ordinary years the crop would undoubtedly be very large, and the oranges much sweeter, and from two to six weeks earlier, than those raised at Riverside. There is very little wind in the San Joaquin valley, compared to that which prevails in Southern California, but wind-breaks of poplar or eucalyptus trees would be very useful. The soil of the foothills is preferable, and there is none such within the limits of the far-famed Riverside, Redlands and Highland, in the East San Bernardino valley, are the only places where the soil is as suitable for orange culture, and even in those places the warm night of the Fresno foothills are absent. Hot weather, rich soil, careful cultivation and plenty of water insure sweet oranges. When the suitability of our soil and climate for orange culture become better known, Fresno will be one of the greatest orange-growing sections in the state.

In the San Francisco Post of yesterday appeared a review of the rain market by W. R. Townsend, a prominent commission merchant. He concludes that Fresno is and will be necessary to the state. This district will, this year, as last, produce over one-half the entire crop of the state. In no other section have the conditions for the growth of the grape and raising of the berry been found to be as favorable as in Fresno county. In El Cajon valley, for instance, the rains are of good quality, the skins thin, and seeds small. The vines do not bear as heavily as those of Fresno, however, and the grapes ripen from two to four weeks later. These conditions, added to the lack of suitable weather for drying, prevents the district from occupying anything but a secondary position. Mr. Townsend estimates the coming crop of the state at 1,250,000 boxes. Of this amount, perhaps 735,000 boxes will be produced in Fresno.

The excessive and brutal act of the English in causing untold suffering by preventing the Derivishes from securing water, is calculated to discredit upon the English people, and by comparison, to heighten respect for the Derivishes. Thousands of these misguided enthusiasts have died in miserable agony from lack of water. This English have stationed soldiers all along the Nile, and but few of the three-thousand natives have succeeded in evading the violence of their tormentors. The fact that weaker tribes and nations are continually being imposed upon by greater powers evinces the necessity for a World's Committee of Arbitration. It should consist of representatives from every principal power in the world, and justice should be meted out to all alike. No power refusing to gain the respect of the world could refuse to co-operate, and much discussion and war would be avoided.

The freight alone on seventy carloads of raw cotton from Mississippi to the Oakland mill was \$30,000. This could be saved if California farmers would raise cotton. In order to induce them to do so, the President of the Oakland Cotton Mills offers to supply seed free to those who will plant from five to twenty acres, and will pay 3 cents per pound for cotton and seed. It is stated that the yield in Fresno county is about 2000 pounds per acre. The citizens of Kearney, Nebraska, have offered a subsidy of \$250,000 for the establishment of large cotton mills. Kearney has but 10,000 inhabitants, yet the sum of \$181,000 was raised in two days. Nebraska is not a cotton-growing state, and has not the resources which characterize California, but our people might well copy the enterprise of her citizens.

It is stated in a manner which appears to be authoritative, that a bill is being prepared for introduction in Congress in December, involving the most gigantic scheme for railroad consolidation ever broached. Every principal road in the United States, and the Canadian Pacific as well, will be merged into one system, with headquarters at Boston. However startling the proposition is to the public, it is certain that this scheme is one which would meet with the approval of nearly every railroad company in the United States, as such a gigantic trust would enable them to secure favorable legislation, and exact a princely income. The United States would practically be governed by them. It would seem that the mere mention of the intention to introduce such a bill would secure its defeat.

There is an ordinance which prohibits the depositing of rubbish upon the streets or alleyways of Fresno, and Street Superintendent Cummings has enforced a commendable interest in having the ordinance enforced. Notwithstanding this fact, many of the alleyways have been made the dumping ground for all sorts of refuse, and are so full of decaying meat, vegetables and fruit that the odor is almost unbearable, and their use as means of communication from one street to another impossible. It is of vastly greater importance that such rubbish should be removed than that the main streets should be periodically swept, and the expense should attach to adjoining property.

The attention and favorable mention given to Dr. Brown-Leopard's alleged discovery indicates that wise men are often influenced by ingenious arguments neatly turned but lacking substantial basis. It is not safe to denounce a proposition because it is novel, but that a substantiated injection of blood from animals will turn back the current of years, arrest the progress of decay and make an old man young again, will necessarily require time for its demonstration. Any simultaneous temporary cures. None have ever permanently improved.

If THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY would give more attention to the encouragement of interior industries of this state and pay less attention to the transcontinental pool's fight with the Canadian Pacific, it would be better for the Southern Pacific Company and far better for California.

COMMON SENSE INSULTED.

The Expositor, not having been able to drag one of the publishers and the City Editor of THE REPUBLICAN into court on a baseless charge, to be tried on the evidence of prostitutes that this paper had exposed, and fully realizing that it has exposed its real motives in attacking this paper by allowing C. B. Harton to bring that silly charge on the evidence of a woman of such character, and also realizing that it has totally failed to damage or injure THE REPUBLICAN or to benefit itself, after one of the most persistent and scurrilous attacks ever made by one paper upon another, it comes out last evening and attempts to renew its foul tactics by trying to make it appear that this paper is continuously and wantonly insulting the business men of the town.

Nothing could be more grossly untrue. THE REPUBLICAN thinks that many of the business men who have criticized the means adopted by it to confine the houses of prostitution to a given quarter of the city have done so in good faith, and are entitled to have their honest opinions, candidly expressed, correctly reported—which has not been done. Those who have been quoted, or misquoted by the Expositor, have lost none of the good will or esteem of THE REPUBLICAN because they have honestly disagreed with us. Many of them agree that the end sought to be attained by THE REPUBLICAN is commendable, and will only disagree with us as to the means to be employed. But the Expositor's backbiters, disreputable characters, Jewish women, gamblers and the one newspaper that sympathizes with them, deprecate the end to be attained. It is these people that THE REPUBLICAN is fighting, and the Expositor knows it.

No more pitiable sight could be depicted than that displayed by the Expositor fighting to crush this paper simply and solely that it might point by our downfall—and for no other or higher object.

What would be thought of any other business enterprise in this community that should engage in such a crusade?

The seizure of the Canadian sealing schooner, which was illegally engaged in sealing in Behring Sea has caused considerable excitement in British Columbia, and unrestrained threats of armed resistance have been made by thoughtless subjects of Great Britain. After the middle of the eighteenth century Russia claimed exclusive control of Behring Sea because of its Alaskan possessions, and the ownership of the Alaskan Islands, and by the right of discovery. Those claims were never disputed and when the United States purchased Alaska in 1867 it succeeded to Russia's rights. When in response to the demands of the peacemaking Canadian sealers England in 1885 set up a claim that Behring Sea was not a closed sea, disputes arose. On March 2, 1899, Congress, in order to remove all doubt passed a law declaring that the fishing laws applied to the whole of Behring Sea and all the islands. It was thoroughly understood that the President of the United States had ordered that all ships upon which were found seals or skins which had been illegally obtained would be confiscated.

In spite of this, twenty-two sealers were fitted out in Victoria, four in Puget Sound and sixteen in San Francisco. The British men-of-war in Alaskan waters have made no movement toward retaliation, but will undoubtedly be urged to do so by impatient Canadians.

The action of the present administration in regard to Behring Sea is in strong contrast to that which characterized the previous one. When the commanding officer of a revenue cutter was asked last year why he had not arrested those who had been illegally engaged in seal fishing he replied that he had received explicit orders from the Democratic Secretary of the Interior not to do so. The captain of the revenue cutter Rush recently found in the possession of the British sealer Bismarck 130 seal skins, and promptly seized the schooner and sent her to Honolulu, stating that he had orders from Washington to take decisive measures in all such cases. The British sealers will soon learn that under the present administration the laws of the United States must be respected.

Our exchanges are still claiming that a rate war is imminent, and that the battle will be fierce between the Southern Pacific and its rival, the Santa Fe. The companies named exchange all the courtesies commonly extended by companies between which only the most friendly relations exist. We fear much of the comment regarding the possible dissolution of the Transcontinental Association is born of a desire to see it solved. There is no assurance that rates will be reduced. The Interstate Law provides that when rates are once reduced they may not again be restored. This would seem to remove from the Southern Pacific Company's pronouncements all its apparent fierceness.

Those who are familiar with electricity and its effect upon the human system will refuse to believe that a man received 600 volts and lives to tell it. The connections were imperfect, or the machine did not furnish the amount stated. In nearly all well-regulated dynamo rooms the floors are oiled, thus in a great measure offering resistance to the flow of current. If the positive and negative poles were both touched, the man would electrocute himself. It is as illogical to claim that 600 volts of electricity will not kill a man through whose body that amount passes, as to say that a man may live through whose heart has passed a bullet from a forty-four caliber pistol.

The unanimity with which many of the California papers commended the decision of the Supreme Court in the Sharon case is at least suggestive. That marriage should be solemnized and a public manner acknowledged, is manifestly so proper as to admit of no discussion. The intention to freely throw out that no business man is less of questionable character indicates that society in California is even less pure than in polygamous Utah, or that members of the press are guilty of making unjust comment. Neither horn of the dilemma is pleasant to look upon.

Disastrous earthquakes in Japan, and fearful storms in the Western states, once more remind the residents of California that they live in the calmest and best climate in the world.

CALIFORNIA WILL BE THE GARDEN SPOT

of the United States. It will also contain the principal vineyards and orchards.

The Traveller, a New England publication, praises in unmeasured terms the climate of New England. Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise.

The principal difficulty met with by the fruit-growers, wine-makers and raisin-pickers is extortionate freight rates. Railroad competition in California is a consummation devoutly to be hoped for.

SULLIVAN'S friends claim that the Sheriff of Richburg was paid \$500 to not interfere with the fight, and that the sum of \$750 was paid for "police" protection. It would have been cheaper for them to have fought in Fresno's Chinatown.

The Fruit Inspectors of Tulare are actively engaged in preventing the importation of scale-infested fruit from Los Angeles. The Fresno county Fruit Inspectors are "sitting around."

FRANK LESLIE'S WEEKLY, under the management of Russell Harrison and Judge Arkell, is rapidly assuming the position occupied by Harper's Weekly before its cowardly sale to the Democrats.

The whole of Europe seems to be on the verge of war. The Turkish Minister of War has ordered out 80,000 of the reserve troops, and nearly every European power is making preparations for a conflict which seems to be inevitable.

The journals of Mexico are what the politicians do not—what the Chinese immigration will in time prove a cure. The leading papers are citing the experience of the United States, and asking that the matter be adjusted in Mexico before the labor market is affected.

This year ago land was sold in Fresno county for \$5 to \$20 per acre that now commands from \$75 to \$750 per acre. As the possibilities of horticulture in this climate become better known, the price of land will continue to advance.

Thorough education is all right, but when the School Superintendent of San Francisco required boys to be furnished with spoons, needles, thread, calico, scissors and thimbles, in order that they might be taught to sew, he stepped from the practical side over to the ridiculous.

Los Angeles county has been divided, and the new county is called Orange. Some of the citizens of Santa Barbara now desire to be allowed to form a county and name it Olive. If this plan prevails we will soon have Watermelon, Raisin, Sugar Beet and Squash counties.

FERNANDO RICHMOND, of San Francisco, who owns property valued at \$40,000, beat his wife so severely that she will die, because she used sugar in her tea. He claimed that it was excessive extravagance. He ought to be invited to occupy a richly furnished room on the pleasantest floor in Fresno.

The editor of the Hanford Sentinel has returned from a visit to the southern portion of the state, and is surprised at the meagre incomes obtained from land that was purchased at boom prices. There is much good land in Southern California, but very little that is equal to the rich soil of Fresno.

Ice is manufactured and sold in the Eastern and Southern states for much less than the naturally-congealed article commands in California. With water power, ice can be manufactured and sold in Fresno for two-thirds of the price demanded by the Union Ice Company, and the business would prove very profitable.

The rapidity with which announcements of the formation of trusts crowd upon each other is astonishing. Nothing seems to have escaped the attention of the British capitalists. Grain elevators, salt and theater have been lately added to the list. And if it were possible, these heartless capitalists would corner the food supply of the world.

With the busy season just setting in and the interior lines of road all but blocked with freight and passenger traffic, the Southern Pacific Company tries to run a bluff on the government by throwing hundreds of men out of employment. How would it do for the government to take charge of the Southern Pacific system?

The San Francisco Bulletin sees a glimmer of hope for the fruit-growers because the center of population is moving West. It argues that the freight rates will necessarily grow less. The Bulletin may be willing to wait, but the fruit-growers can hardly afford to be so patient. What's wrong with compelling the railroads to reduce rates?

The Canadian government certainly has a right to assist the Canadian Pacific Railroad Company if it may deem assistance necessary. But the grants which the United States made to the Central Pacific and later to the Southern Pacific—owned by the same company—have never been equalled, and never will be. The Southern Pacific has no cause for complaint.

The report that one of the publishers of THE REPUBLICAN had been horse-whipped by May Ellis, on Thursday evening, was a malicious falsehood, and without the slightest foundation. It was widely circulated by C. B. Harton of the daily Evening Expositor, and this, too, after a reliable reporter had been defamed from that paper to look the matter up. Why was this, Bro. Ferguson?

THE REPUBLICAN is here, and it is here to stay. Not to build itself up by tearing down any other enterprise, but to exist on its own merits. It is liable to mistakes. It is open to criticism. It has not dragged private citizens in to fight its battles, nor has it attempted to prostitute the Court to its private malice. It is willing to leave the decision of this matter to the sober common thought of the good citizens of Fresno.

THE ALTA should cease to wage the crimson garment, and dispense with its unprovoked rebel editor. The following article is entirely inapplicable, and decidedly unworthy of the spirit of the times: "Fred Douglas says he was born a slave, and fought with dogs for the crumbs that fell from his master's table. There must have been a look on the chicken-coop door."

EXPERIMENTAL STATIONS.

The Agricultural Experiment stations of the United States now employ over 370 experts in agricultural science and practice, and are supported by a national appropriation of \$900,000, to which the states add \$125,000; \$725,000, a year may seem like a large sum to expend annually for agricultural experiments, but it is less than 10 cents for each of the 7,500,000 farm-workers of the country; less than 2 1/2 cents for each of the 30,000,000 of our population directly dependent upon agriculture for their support, and less than 1 1/2 cents for each of the 30,000,000 of our people who consume the products of our farms. The object of these stations is to experiment and to teach, to make a regular business of discovery for the use of farming, to promote agriculture by scientific investigation and experiment, and diffuse as well as increase the knowledge which improves farm practice and elevates farm life.

No one can with safety assert that the product most suited to any one locality has been obtained, or that any section has reached its greatest horticultural development. It occasionally happens that farmers struggle for a lifetime in a vain endeavor to live comfortably by growing wheat, when they might acquire great wealth by raising oranges or other valuable products for which their land is particularly well suited. A change in products generally necessitates the abandonment of one class of implements and the adoption of another. Such changes are costly, and few farmers can afford to experiment except on a very small scale, while it is often necessary to raise large quantities of a certain product in order to demonstrate its worth. Thus the Experimental Stations become very valuable adjuncts to farming, and aid largely in securing the highest development of resources, an object to which it is the duty of all farmers to contribute their best endeavors. When it is stated by those having the work in charge that the cost to each farm is less than 11 cents per annum it becomes evident that by co-operation results are secured that could not otherwise be gained, and at a trifling cost.

Most California farmers will be surprised to learn that the work has so far progressed in the East. There is but one station of importance in California—the one at Berkeley, and but few are informed of the work which is being done there. Experiments are confined almost exclusively to wine-making, and the farmers receive very little benefit therefrom, as but a very limited number of reports are sent out, and they fall into the hands of editors, college professors, and a few of the principal wine-makers.

In the East, the managers of the stations are conducting a large amount of scientific research in the laboratory and the greenhouse, and on an equally large amount of practical experimenting in the field, the orchard, the stable, and the dairy. Some stations make a specialty of experiments with home-made and commercial fertilizers; others are endeavoring to show what can be done to restore the fertility to worn-out lands; others deal largely with the culture of fruit in orchards and vineyards; others are engaged on work relating to the composition of soils and the methods of storing them; others are experimenting on the feeding of animals, and still others on diseases of animals and plants and their cure. Irrigation receives a good deal of attention in Colorado, and is doing something in poultry-raising, and another in keeping of bees. Most of the stations give attention to various lines of work. Very few farmers are informed of the result of these experiments, however, as the government reports are distributed in much the same style that the state reports are. Farmers can, however, by writing to Jeremiah Rusk, the Secretary of Agriculture, at Washington, obtain the reports mentioned.

It would be impossible to mention the list of valuable fruits introduced by the Department of Agriculture. The Bahia orange, however, is one of the most important. It is also known as the Washington navel, and Riverside navel, and is the most valuable orange now raised in the state. Many of our best varieties of grapes have also been introduced by the Department.

There is an Experimental Station in Fresno county, and one in Tulare. Fresno has been established but a year, however, and if any reports have been made they escaped the writer's attention.

SEVENTEEN have been following the government irrigation surveying parties in Idaho, with a view of taking up valuable water rights. The Los Angeles Tribune states that the law which authorizes the surveys provides that "all lands designated or set apart by the surveyors for sites for reservoirs, ditches or canals and all lands made susceptible of irrigation by the same are reserved from sale, entry or settlement." We think the Tribune errs. Such a law would be decidedly unjust, and at once inoperative, because of the impossibility of determining just how much land had been made "susceptible of irrigation."

The fact that many towns not favorably situated thrive, while many others are surrounded by almost endless resources do not, teaches a lesson which all business men must sooner or later learn. The Colusa Sun explains the apparent inconsistency of the situation very tersely: "Natural facilities do not count much in these days of push and enterprise. The combined effort of a people will build a city in a desert, but all the natural advantages in the world will do no good if possessed by a people who are contented with what comes, and who discount actual advantages."

The Southern Pacific Company has 600,000 ties at San Pedro, and the accumulation goes on at the rate of 30,000 per week. An official states that the company has made surveys, and is in a position to build a road from Los Angeles to Salt Lake at the rate of three miles a day, in case any movement is made by a rival company. This is not reasonable, and shows with what a firm grip the Southern Pacific Company holds the great State of California.

LOS ANGELES capitalists will build a large hotel if they can find for the structure a suitable name. They must have also been "short" on names when they called one of the handsomest suburbs "Boyle Heights."

A CORRESPONDENT IS INFORMED THAT

FRESNO IS NUTRITIOUS AND PLEASANT.

It is reported that the well-known real estate firm of Ananias & Saphira have purchased a controlling interest in the Evening Obstructionist.

MINNESOTA prohibits the publication of the details of executions. The news papers should induce the State Attorney to write an opinion to the effect that the law is unconstitutional.

Will the Expositor stop throwing mud at THE REPUBLICAN long enough to tell the people of Fresno whether it wants the house of prostitution opposite the postoffice abolished or not?

The purchase of United States factories and products by English trusts is becoming monotonous. We hope that our contemporary will be unable to secure an English grammar before the supply is controlled by a trust.

The royal family costs England \$1,055,000 per annum. The eleven living members have drawn over \$24,000,000. This matter will sooner or later attract the attention of the thinking classes and a change will be demanded.

ENGLAND has recently annexed the Union and Phoenix groups of islands in the Pacific Ocean. We admire England's policy of securing coaling stations. It is a plan which should be more generally adopted by the United States.

The wealth of bloom on the pepper tree indicates a large pepper crop. Hundreds of thousands of pounds of peppers are allowed to rot to waste here annually. Such improvidence would back up any other community.—Ontario Observer.

The Observer errs in concluding that the so-called pepper tree which grows so luxuriously in California is the true pepper.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Company has discharged 350 men from the Sacramento car shops, and announces that 150 more will be laid off to-day. An officer of the company states that this is a result of the Interstate Commerce bill, which, he alleges, gives special advantages to the Canadian Pacific. The company has an undisputed right to discharge laborers, but it is cowardly in the extreme to whine about Canadian competition.

The fact that a cargo of tea and silk was taken from Yokohama to New York by way of the Canadian Pacific in twenty-one days, is one which commands attention and demands consideration. A cargo by way of San Francisco would be compelled to pass over several different lines, and the trip would necessarily require more time. Our government must exercise a more liberal policy toward steamship lines, or lose the traffic which would otherwise be gained.

According to the published program the Senate Committee on Irrigation will omit in their surveys the examination of Fresno, the greatest ruin and fruit section in the state, where irrigation has been brought to its highest development. The committee will, however, examine the great West Side, and that portion of it which is situated in Fresno county may receive some attention. It is more likely, however, that the trip through that section will be made as hurriedly as possible.

The President of the Fulsum Water-Power Company announces his intention of electrically transmuting power to Sacramento, where it will be used for the propulsion of machinery. This will aid in further demonstrating the feasibility of such projects, and may lead to the establishment of similar plants. Thousands of horse-power are now annually allowed to go to waste in every county in the state that might with the use of electricity be utilized.

The Georgia Southern Railroad Company has announced its intention of starting a model farm, in order to prove to the farmers of the North what may be done in the South. Acetate accounts of the income and expenditures will be kept and the results will be published. The proposition is practical enough to prove beneficial. There attaches to it, however, the suspicion that the Georgia company is following Southern Pacific plans, with a view of ascertaining how much the traffic will bear.

The Dick telescope has not yet been of great service to the world, notwithstanding the hopes that were founded upon it. The astronomers in charge seem to use the observatory largely for their own amusement, visitors being allowed to use the great telescope only two hours out of every 108. Greater discoveries than were ever made at Mount Hamilton are every year made with smaller instruments in the East. The managers of the greatest telescope on earth ought to resign in favor of more competent astronomers.

ARSON ought to be made a capital offense punishable by death. Then would the thieves, vagabonds and cut-throats who set fire to cities for imagined wrongs or enable them to rob, steal and plunder, be a little more careful in the prosecuting of their calling.—Santa Ana Blade.

Our exchanges do not apparently coincide with the teachings of our contemporary, which insists that the criminal element should be spoken to kindly and allowed to live in the midst of business and in front of our temples of learning.</

